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### SYMPOSIUM BIOGRAPHIES

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# SYMPOSIUM BIOGRAPHIES

## MODERATORS

**ALETA G. ESTREICHER** is a Professor of Law at New York Law School. She joined the faculty of NYLS in 1984. She teaches corporations, securities regulation, property, and various seminars on corporate and securities law. Before she began teaching, Professor Estreicher practiced corporate law at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in New York City. She also clerked for the Hon. Eugene H. Nickerson of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Professor Estreicher has authored several articles, including: "Beyond Agency Costs: Managing the Corporation for the Long Term," *Rutgers Law Review* (1993), and "Securities Regulation and the First Amendment," *Georgia Law Review* (1990). She received her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law, where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and served as Articles Editor of the *Columbia Law Review*.

**KAREN GROSS** is a Professor of Law at New York Law School. She entered academia in 1984 after practicing bankruptcy/corporate law in Chicago and New York. In addition to her teaching responsibilities (contracts, commercial transactions, bankruptcy, bankruptcy policy), she lectures frequently to bar associations, judges, and law professors on bankruptcy-related topics. Professor Gross sits on several boards and advisory committees and is a member of various organizations, including the American Bar Association (where she co-chairs a Task Force on Data Collection in Bankruptcy) and the Business Reorganization Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York (where she chairs the Consumer Subcommittee). Professor Gross has authored numerous articles and a book entitled *Failure and Forgiveness: Rebalancing the Bankruptcy System* (1997). She is also a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy* (15th Rev. ed.).

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

**GEORGE G. TRIANTIS** is a Professor of Law at the University of Virginia Law School. He joined the faculty at the University of Virginia School of Law in 1994 and is currently the Director of the John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics at the law school. He formerly held a joint appointment as an Assistant Professor of both Law and Management at the University of Toronto. He also served as a teaching fellow at Stanford University. His fields of expertise are contracts, commercial law, debt financing, and bankruptcy. Professor Triantis has published numerous articles, including "The Role of Debt in Interactive Corporate Governance," *California Law Review* (1995); "A Systems Approach to Comparing U.S. and Canadian Reorganization of Financially Distressed Companies," *Harvard International Law Journal* (1994); "A Free-Cash-Flow Theory of Secured Debt and Creditor Priorities," *Virginia Law Review* (1994); "Conversion Rights and the Design of Financial Contracts," *Washington University Law Quarterly* (1994); and "The Interplay of Liquidation and Reorganization in Bankruptcy: The Role of Screens, Gatekeepers and Guillotines," *International Review of Law and Economics* (March 1996). He is a graduate of the University of Toronto School of Law, and received an LL.M. from the University of Virginia and a J.S.D. from Stanford University.

## BANKRUPTCY PANELISTS

**SAMUEL L. BUFFORD** is a judge on the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California. He has served for ten years as a bankruptcy judge in the Central District of California. He frequently lectures on issues involving bankruptcy law and legal ethics. Judge Bufford has taught and consulted extensively on bankruptcy law in Hungary, Ukraine, and Romania. He has recently conducted a week-long seminar on bankruptcy for Romanian Judges in Mamaia, and other seminars in locales such as Bucharest, Ploiesti, and Budapest. Another such seminar is already scheduled in Cluj. He has provided written comments on the draft bankruptcy laws of Romania, Croatia, and Estonia, and consulted with Ukrainian law professors engaged in revising the bankruptcy law of Ukraine. Judge Bufford is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Southern California Law Center and was formerly an Assistant Professor of Law at Ohio State University College of Law. He served for four years as Editor-in-Chief of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal* and has authored numerous published opinions and articles on various bankruptcy law issues. He earned his law degree from the University of Michigan, where he was an editor of the *Michigan Law Review* and the *Journal of Law Reform*. In addition, he holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Texas, and was a philosophy professor for seven years.

**JAMES L. GARRITY, JR.** is a judge on the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. Judge Garrity was appointed to the bench in July 1991 after serving five and one-half years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. Judge Garrity had been in private practice with the New York City firm of Anderson, Kill, Olick & Oshinsky, P.C. He is a 1977 graduate of Holy Cross College and a 1980 graduate of St. John's University School of Law. He received an LL.M. in taxation from New York University School of Law in 1986.

**RICHARD A. GITLIN** is a founding member of the law firm Hebb & Gitlin of Hartford, Connecticut. He currently serves as the U.S. Examiner for Maxwell Communication Corporation, plc. Mr. Gitlin is past President of INSOL International and is also Chairman of INSOL International's 1997 World Congress. In addition, he is past President and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Bankruptcy Institute. From 1989 to 1995, Mr. Gitlin served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American College of Bankruptcy, and he currently serves as a member of its Board of Directors. He is also a member of the Creditors' Rights Advisory Committee of the Practising Law Institute and Canada's Bankruptcy and Insolvency Advisory Committee (BIAC). Mr. Gitlin is co-editor and contributing author of *International Loan Workouts and Bankruptcies*, Butterworths (1989) and co-author of *The International Void in the Law of Multinational Bankruptcies*, Business Lawyer (1987).

**EDUARDO MARTINEZ RODRIGUEZ** is a member of the law firm of Santamarina y Steta, S.C. in Mexico City, where he represents Mexican and foreign companies in international business, with an emphasis on financial matters. He has been a member of the faculty of Universidad Iberoamericana, Universidad Intercontinental, and Escuela Libre de Derecho in Mexico City. Mr. Martinez Rodriguez has authored several articles on commercial and administrative law for publication in the Law School of Universidad Iberoamericana's "JURIDICA." Mr. Martinez Rodriguez graduated from Universidad Iberoamericana School of Law in Mexico City. He is a member of the Mexican bar's "Ilustre y Nacional Colegio de Abogados de México."

## CORPORATE PANELISTS

**KATHERINE ASHTON** is a senior associate in the London office of the international law firm of Debevoise & Plimpton. She headed Debevoise & Plimpton's Budapest office, which she opened in March 1991, until her move to London two years ago. She has extensive experience in privatizations in Eastern and Western Europe, including frequent representation of the Hungarian government. Among the Hungarian privatizations in which she has been involved are that of the first global offering by a Hungarian issuer, the first successful Hungarian privatization through a public offering, and one of the first

Hungarian bond offerings since World War II. She has also represented various Hungarian issuers in financing transactions. Ms. Ashton has published numerous articles on privatization and related topics. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School and a member of the New York bar.

**JEROME A. COHEN** is a member of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison and divides his time between New York and Hong Kong, but makes frequent visits to Tokyo, Beijing, Ho Chi Minh City, and Paris. He specializes in business law relating to Asia, and he represents foreign companies in contract negotiations and dispute resolutions. He is also Professor at New York University School of Law, having previously served as Professor, Director of East Asian Legal Studies, and Associate Dean at Harvard Law School. He is the Advisor to the Government of Sichuan Province, China; Chairman of the American Arbitration Association's China Conciliation Committee; a member of the Panel of Arbitrators of both China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission and the China Securities Regulatory Commission; Chairman of the New York/Beijing Friendship (Sister City) Committee; a Director of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations; as well as a member of the board of Human Rights Watch-Asia. He has published several books and many articles on Chinese and Vietnamese law. Mr. Cohen is a graduate of Yale School of Law where he was Editor-in-Chief of the *Yale Law Journal* and chosen for the Order of the Coif. He is a member of the bar in New York, Connecticut, and the District of Columbia and speaks Mandarin Chinese, French, and Spanish.

**JUAN M. DOBSON** has been a practicing lawyer since 1968 in the cities of Rosario and Buenos Aires in Argentina and a Professor of Law since 1974 at the University of Rosario, Argentina. He has extensive experience in the field of commercial law and more recently in international contracts. He was President of the Rosario Bar of Lawyers (1988-89). His academic activities include Director of Graduate Studies (1991-92) and Dean for Academic Studies (1978-79) of the University of Rosario. He has delivered lectures on commercial law at Frankfurt University School of Law (1985) and Saarbruochen University School of Law (1986). Dr. Dobson participated in the symposium on Cross-Border Insolvency at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth (1989). He has actively been involved in INSOL, both as a speaker at the Conferences at Vienna (1994) and at Toronto (1995) and as a member of the UNCITRAL/INSOL Expert Committee for Cross-Border Insolvency (1994). His publications include a treatise on the lifting of the corporate veil (*El abuso de personalidad juridica*, 1985), and articles in *The International and Comparative Law Quarterly* and the *Revue internationale de droit comparée*.

**ANN F. THOMAS** is an Associate Professor at New York Law School, where she has been a member of the faculty since 1995. She teaches corporate and individual income tax and business law planning courses. In 1992-93 and 1994-95, Professor Thomas taught

corporate tax and tax policy courses as a Visiting Lecturer at Yale Law School. She was a Visiting Scholar at the Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University (1992-95) and an Affiliate Fellow at The Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute, Radcliffe College (1992-93). Before entering academia, Professor Thomas was a partner (1983-92) in the Tax Department of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, where she had been an associate (1976-83). Professor Thomas is a member of the Executive Committee of the Tax Section of the New York State Bar Association and co-chair of Individuals. She is the author of "Joint Tax Return Liability and Bankruptcy," *Fairshare* (1994), "Women and Taxes: The Costly Connection," *Radcliffe Quarterly* (1993), "Tax Considerations at the Intersections of Matrimonial and Bankruptcy Law," in *Bankruptcy Issues in Matrimonial Cases: A Practical Guide*, Prentice Hall Law and Business (1993), and is co-author of various tax articles. She graduated from Yale Law School, where she was awarded the Francis Wayland Prize.

**BRUCE A. WOLFSON** is co-head of the international practice group in the Legal Department of Bear, Stearns & Co., Inc., which is responsible for trading, sales, settlements, and investment banking activities outside of the United States. Prior to joining Bear, Stearns in 1988, Mr. Wolfson practiced for four years in a private law firm in Chicago, then served as legal counsel to Bank of America (including four years as resident counsel in Mexico) and the International Finance Division of Citibank, N.A. He is a member of the board of directors and chair of the Global Equities Committee of the Emerging Markets Traders Association, Inc. He is past co-chair of the Securities Industry Association's ad hoc committees on the North America Free Trade Agreement and the Emerging Markets and a member of the advisory board of the *Journal of International Economic Law* of the University of Pennsylvania School of Law. He received his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

